

# Career opportunities and training for your future



## “Earn while you learn”

Each year, more than 1,350 men and women receive their Washington apprenticeship certificates in more than 100 different occupations.

## Learn the skills to build a rewarding career through apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is formalized, industry-driven career training. It is designed to create high-skill, high-paying job opportunities, and is an alternative route to traditional college programs. Depending on the occupation, apprenticeships last one to six years.

### For workers, apprenticeships provide:

- On-the-job training
- Wages (that increase with your experience and skills)
- Classroom studies
- Job security and increased marketability
- Opportunity to earn college credit in many occupational areas

### For employers, apprenticeships make sense and ensure:

- An effective way to develop well-trained, highly skilled workers who have been given training customized to specific work requirements
- A diverse and qualified pool of workers, including women and minorities
- Lower training costs
- Increased productivity
- Reduced absenteeism and job-turnover rates
- Improved community relations and employee relations

Apprenticeship programs are more popular than ever. In Washington, about 14,000 people participate in nearly 300 apprenticeship programs, including many emerging fields such as culinary arts, child-care and dispensing opticians.



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For more information, contact the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries Apprenticeship Section at 360-902-5320, or visit [www.LNI.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/](http://www.LNI.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/).

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**LABOR AND  
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## Registered Apprenticeship

Be a part of the evolving workforce and “earn while you learn” by exploring the many career opportunities that await you as an apprentice.

## Washington's Apprentice Health Unit Coordinator program

During the next two years, Tacoma's MultiCare Health System plans to register 80 participants in its new Apprentice Health Unit Coordinator program. This new apprenticeship opportunity was designed to specifically address a shortage of skilled workers in the health-care industry.

A health unit coordinator works with doctors and nurses to assist patients and families with non-clinical care. Apprentices will learn basic medical terminology, rules on confidential and private information, how to communicate with all members of a health-care team and clerical skills.

Upon completion of the one-year, 2,000-hour program (which includes 144 classroom hours), apprentices can take the national exam to become a certified Health Unit Coordinator. The average annual starting salary for an entry-level position is \$24,200.

This apprenticeship can also prepare those who are interested in continuing their education in related health-care occupations such as nursing or medical records.

The Department of Labor and Industries, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, the Workforce Development Council of Tacoma-Pierce County, the U.S. Department of Labor and MultiCare Health System pooled resources to create this program, the first of its kind in Washington State and among the first in the country.

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